

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

DECEMBER 4, 2012

COUNTYWIDE CHANNEL CARRIAGE

In 2010, the County launched its first ever government-programming television channel, with the intent to have its carriage countywide. This important resource helps ensure that residents have access to information on health and social services, public safety, parks and recreation, cultural institutions and the vast array of other services provided by the County. Because the County Channel is a valuable asset to residents in both unincorporated areas and the cities, it should be available to all residents countywide.

The County's goal to have countywide carriage of the County Channel is not currently being fulfilled by all cable companies. As a result, there are large portions of the County where residents do not have the ability to access the County Channel. Charter Communications is not currently carrying the County Channel in any of its jurisdictions and Time Warner Cable is not carrying the channel in any of the cities located in the County. However, Verizon, Cox Communications, and AT&T are commended for continuously broadcasting the asset of the County Channel countywide, from its inception, at no cost to the County.

State law requires Video Service Providers who have been issued a franchise by the Public Utilities Commission as a result of the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act, to interconnect and carry a local government's Public, Educational, and Government channel within their jurisdiction at no cost to the local government.

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MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office to send a letter on behalf of all members of the Board of Supervisors to Charter Communications and Time Warner Cable:

1. conveying the County's commitment to gain carriage of the County Channel countywide at no cost;
2. informing these cable companies of the importance of this channel to all County residents; and
3. requesting that these companies take whatever steps are necessary to carry the County Channel countywide as quickly as possible, at no cost to the County.

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